REMARKS

1. Claim 1 has been amended by adding the term "specific' and deleting the terms "single removable".

Support for adding the term "specific" can be found for example in page 15 ("...to extract a specific algorithm of the provider SP...") and in page 16 ("... the function indicated as TMW2 is identified by a specific algorithm of the individual provider SP...").

Support for deleting the expression "single removable" can be found for example in original claim 1 and in page 14 of the specification ("From the above it is readily apparent that, although it is preferred ... to embody the invention at the level of a movable support such as a smart card, the same function can be performed in a different way, for instance in the form of a circuit function comprised within the user system STB'). Therefore, having a "single removable" user unit is not an essential feature of the invention (this feature was introduced in claim 1 in the Amendment After Final Action filed on February 5, 2004).

2. The claims have been rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious from Wasilewski in view of Jardin.

Wasilewski teaches, inter alia, a conditional access system comprising a Set Top Box (DHTC) having one Smart Card (DHCTSE) for providing to a user services by a plurality of Entitlement Agents. The Smart Card comprises a single not modifiable algorithm stored therein (col. 21, lines 47-58), which is the same for all the entitlement agents, and a plurality of modifiable keys (col. 22, lines 9-12). In other words, according to the Wasilewski teaching, all the Service Providers use the same encryption/decryption algorithm and different keys, stored in the Smart Card.

Jardin discloses, inter alias, a method and system to provide secure communication over computer networks, wherein a single server is able to randomly select a security algorithm from a pool of security algorithms and download it to a requesting application (col. 4, lines 19-33). The invention of Jardin provides the ability to utilize an almost infinite number of security algorithms, to increase the security of the system (col. 1, lines 51-54).

According to the Examiner: "at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the servers of Wasilewski to download the algorithm as is downloaded to the smart card of Jardin to the

application where the application would be the smart card as disclosed by Wasilewski'.

According to the Applicant, new claim 1 is not obvious over the combination of Wasilewski and Jardin.

In fact, even if the servers of Wasilewski are modified to select an algorithm in a pool of algorithms and to download the selected algorithm to the user unit, this algorithm would not be "specific of the provider" since it would be "randomly selected" in accordance with the teaching of Jardin.

By appropriately selecting the enabling algorithm, each provider can have a direct control, independent from other providers, of the security of the service delivery.

Respectfully submitted,
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